

EPA to Conduct Cleanup Action at Avery Landing Superfund Site

Avery Landing Removal Site - Shoshone County, Idaho

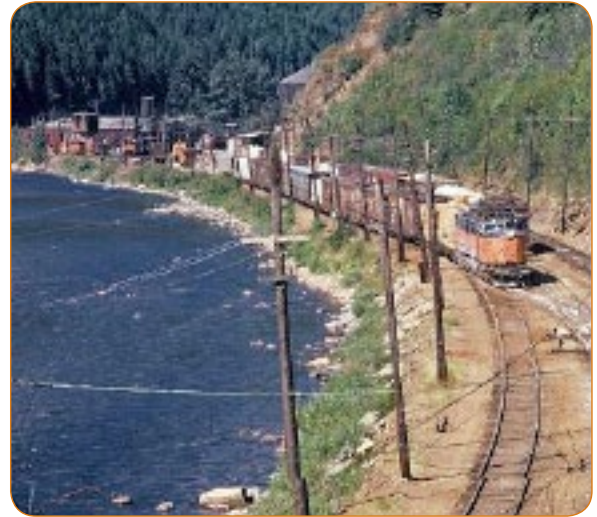
May 2012

The Avery Landing Superfund Site served as a railroad maintenance and refueling facility for the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad (Milwaukee Road) from 1907 until 1977. Located along the St. Joe River in northern Idaho, it functioned as a switching station and light maintenance facility.

The Milwaukee Road refueled trains, used solvents to clean engine parts, cleaned locomotives, and maintained other equipment at the Site. In the mid-1910s, the Milwaukee Road began to operate electric locomotives.

Trains coming from the east used an electric rail line to travel to Avery. At the Avery facility, electric locomotives were switched to diesel motive power or vice versa. Fuel oil was stored at the Site in a 500,000-gallon above-ground storage tank until the mid-1970s, when the railroad discontinued use of electric locomotives.

Now, the United States Government and the Idaho Department of Lands, along with Potlatch Land and Lumber (Potlatch) and a private party own the Site.



Avery, Idaho in 1973 Photo used by permission of Steve Schmollinger

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Idaho, and others investigated the site. The investigations showed hazardous substances and petroleum contamination in the subsurface soil and groundwater. This contamination primarily results from the Site's historical use as a railroad switching and maintenance facility. The investigations also showed contamination migrating toward and discharging into the St. Joe River.

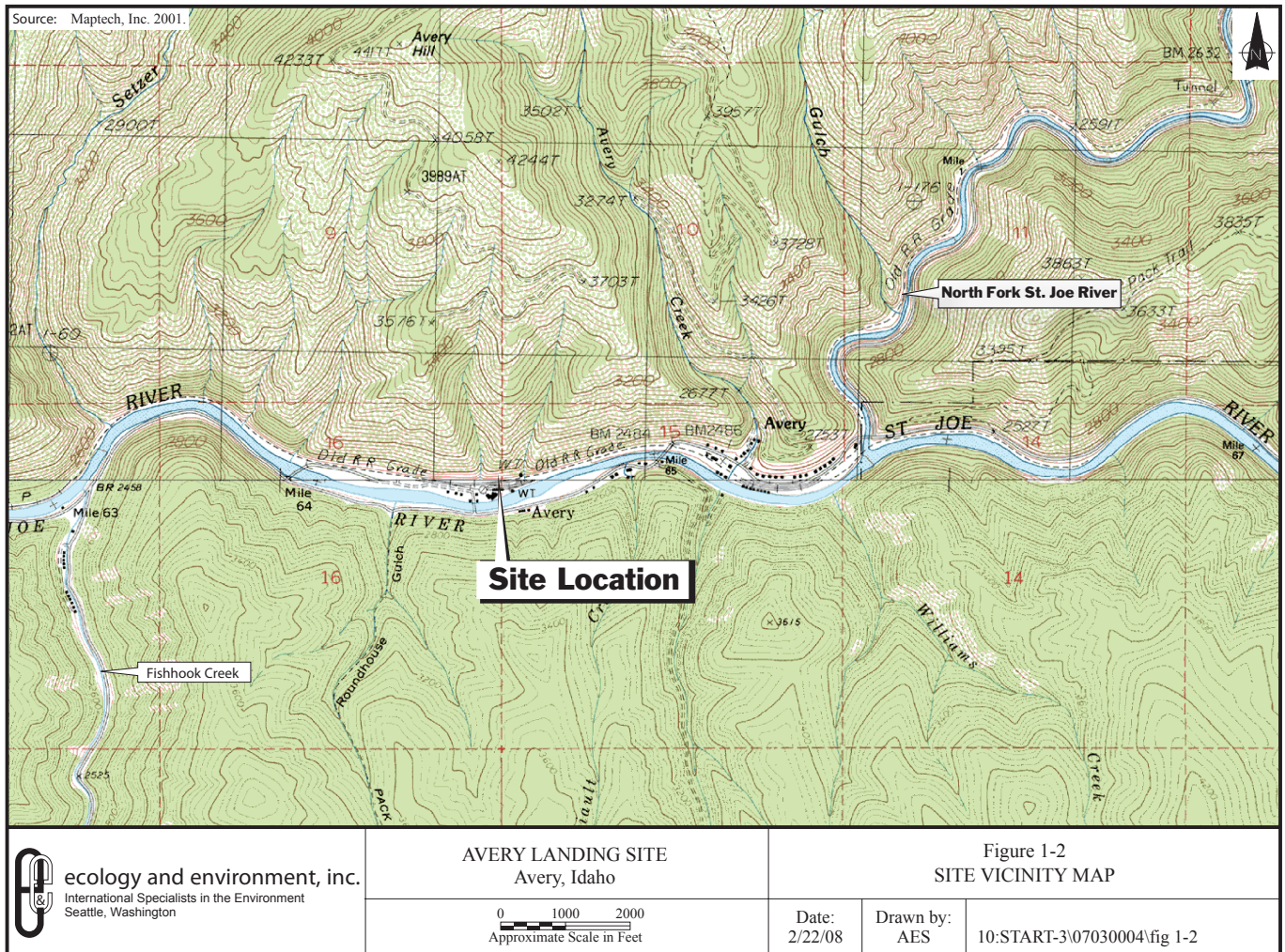
The EPA prepared a cleanup plan for the Site. We released the plan for public review and comment on January 26, 2011.

Once the public comment period ended, EPA considered all comments received. On July 5, 2011, we selected a cleanup action for the Site. Goals of the cleanup action include reducing sources of contamination and protecting against further impacts to public health and welfare or to the environment.



Avery Landing Superfund Site today

US EPA



Current Status

As part of the cleanup, we will excavate an estimated 58,000 cubic yards of contaminated material. The material will be disposed of offsite. We will backfill with clean material and will restore the Site, as closely as possible, to its original condition.

A portion of the cleanup action includes removing and rebuilding Highway 50. A temporary bypass will be constructed to allow traffic to move through the Site.

However, there may be instances when traffic is delayed for several minutes because of cleanup activities.

EPA currently intends to conduct part of the cleanup action, and will provide oversight while Potlatch performs the other part of the removal action. Cleanup work at the Site will occur during the 2012 field work season.

For More Information

If you want more information about the Avery Landing cleanup and removal action, please contact :

Earl Liverman

US EPA

☎ 208-664-4858 or 1-800-424-4372

Terry Cundy

Potlatch Land and Lumber

☎ 208-799-4135

Information is also available at the following locations:

Avery Community Center/Library

10 Depot Road

Avery, ID 83802

US EPA Coeur d'Alene

1910 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 208

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

The EPA provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation, such as requiring information in a certain format (e.g. Braille, large print), please notify Terry Cundy at

☎ 208-664-4858 or 1-800-424-4372

📠 TTY users may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8839 and give the operator Terry Cundy's phone number. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.



EPA contractors used a drill rig to collect subsurface soil samples at Avery Landing Superfund Site in 2007

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